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Patent

Docket No. 434-281

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of : Confirmation No.: 4637  
: :  
VALLANCE ET AL. : Group Art Unit: 3748  
: :  
Serial No.: 10/659,406 : Examiner: Nguyen, Hoang M.  
: :  
Filed: September 10, 2003 : :  
: :  
For: LINEAR ACTUATOR USING SHAPE MEMORY WIRE WITH  
CONTROLLER

**PROPOSED AMENDMENT FOR EXAMINER INTERVIEW**

1 (currently amended). A linear actuator, comprising:

a housing;

a stop displaceable on a linear axis with respect to the housing;

at least one wire formed of a shape-memory alloy, said wire attached at a first end to the stop and at a second end to the housing for applying a pulling force to the stop when heated to a predetermined temperature to cause the stop to slide in a first direction;

a spring applying a biasing force to the stop in a second direction counter to the first direction; and

a wire heater.